

I claim:

1. A basal thumb joint implant comprising a head including a smooth, generally hemispherical, medio-proximally directed, articulating surface, and a generally abrupt, distally directed, truncation thereto; and a stem attached to the head, which arises from the truncation of the head and includes at least one of the following features:

- A) a general angle of attachment to the head which is acute in relation to the truncation of the head;
- B) a flanged cross-sectional stem profile;
- C) an inwardly curved stem;
- D) an eccentric head attachment site for the stem.

2. The implant of claim 1, which has a general angle of attachment to the head which is acute in relation to the truncation of the head.

3. The implant of claim 1, which has a flanged cross-sectional stem profile.

4. The implant of claim 2, which has a flanged cross-sectional stem profile.

5. The implant of claim 1, having an inwardly curved stem.

6. The implant of claim 1, having an eccentric attachment site for the stem.

7. The implant of claim 4, having an inwardly curved stem and an eccentric attachment site for the stem.

8. The implant of claim 1, which is modular, having its head

which is attachable to its stem.

9. The implant of claim 8, wherein the head has a stem trunion receiving cup in its truncation, and the stem has a trunion for being received in said cup.

10. The implant of claim 9, which has tapered walls to said cup and said trunion for securing the head and stem together.

11. The implant of claim 10, wherein the head is made of a suitable ceramic material, and the stem of a suitable metal.

12. A modular digital joint implant comprising a head with a smooth, generally hemispherical, medio-proximally directed, articulating surface, a generally abrupt, distally directed truncation thereto, and a stem trunion-receiving cup in the truncation; and a stem attachable to the head, which stem has intracarpal spike-like distal end, and a proximally directed trunion, which trunion is insertable into the stem trunion-receiving cup of the head.

13. The implant of claim 12, wherein the head has a stem trunion receiving cup in its truncation, and the stem has a trunion for being received in said cup.

14. The implant of claim 13, which has tapered walls to said cup and said trunion for securing the head and stem together.

15. The implant of claim 16, wherein the head is made of a suitable ceramic material, and the stem of a suitable metal.

16. The implant of claim 12, which is a basal thumb joint implant.

17. The implant of claim 16, which includes at least one of the following features:

- A) a general angle of attachment to the head which is acute in relation to the truncation of the head;
- B) a flanged cross-sectional stem profile;
- C) an inwardly curved stem;
- D) an eccentric head attachment site for the stem.

18. A basal thumb joint implant comprising a head including a smooth, generally hemispherical, medio-proximally directed, articulating surface, and a generally abrupt, distally directed, truncation thereto; and a stem attached to the head, which arises from the truncation of the head, wherein the implant includes the following features:

- A) a general angle of attachment to the head which is about from sixty-five to seventy-five degrees in relation to the truncation of the head;
- B) a tri-flanged cross-sectional stem profile;
- C) an inwardly curved stem; and
- D) an eccentric head attachment site for the stem.

19. The implant of claim 18, wherein the general angle of attachment is about seventy degrees in relation to the truncation of the head, and the stem profile generally is T-shaped and tapers from the head to a distal end of the stem.

20. The implant of claim 19, which is made of a cobalt-containing alloy.